

Amendments to the Drawings:

Amended Figures 6, 10 to 12, 14, 17, 25 and 26 enclosed.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's first Office Action of November 29, 2005 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the specification, drawings and claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

at page 7, lines 23-27 of the present specification "Figure 13" is replaced with --Figure 3-- when referring to items 122 and 124, which are illustrated in Figure 3 of the present application;

at page 13, lines 13-16 of the present specification "127" is omitted from "drive shaft of motor 110" and "125B" is replaced with --125-- when referring to the cog fixed to the drive roller 96, which is illustrated in Figure 25 of the present application;

Figure 6 is amended to omit reference character "46";

Figures 10-12 are amended to omit reference character "8016";

Figure 14 is amended to omit reference character "8012";

Figure 17 is amended to omit reference character "8023";

Figure 25 is amended to omit reference character "125B";

Figure 26 is amended to:

omit reference characters "104" and "108";

replace reference character "125A" with --125-- (see above amendment at page 13, lines 13-16 of the present specification);

replace reference character "189" with --89-- (see page 12, line 25-page 13, line 3 of the present specification); and

insert reference characters --154A-- and --154B-- (see page 14, lines 1-5 of the present specification);

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the outlet of the reservoir is arranged to dispense the stored printing fluid in response to relative movement of the first and second portions and that the locking features prevent disengagement of the first and second portions subsequent to the dispensing. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 28, lines 5-26 of the present specification;

independent claim 5 is similarly amended to clarify that the deformable container stores printing fluid, that the outlet coupled to the deformable container is arranged to dispense the stored printing fluid in response to relative sliding of the base and plunger, and that the complementary protrusions and indentations prevent disengagement of the base and plunger subsequent to the dispensing; and

dependent claims 2-4 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding Drawing Objections

It is respectfully submitted that the above described amendments to the specification and drawings, provide the corrections required by the Examiner with respect to the indicating reference characters.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 5, and dependent claims 2-4, is not taught or suggested by Yuen (US 6,799,610) in view of Kyser et al. (US 4,183,031), for at least the following reasons.

In the present invention, the top cover molding 162 of the ink refill cartridge 160 is depressed relative to the base molding 170 to expel ink from the cartridge into the reservoirs 28-34 of the printer cartridge 6. Following the depression/refilling operation, the cover molding 162 is positioned to cover the base molding, as illustrated in Figures 35 and 38 of the present application. The cover molding is retained in this position by engagement of the retaining protrusion 168 and the post-plunge recess 169 of the base and cover moldings. This engagement locks the refill cartridge subsequent to the dispensing of the refill ink, which eliminates the potential for a user to attempt to replenish refill cartridge with an inferior ink, etc. (see page 27, line 13-page 28, line 26 of the present specification). Amended independent claims 1 and 5 recite these features of the present invention.

On the other hand, Yuen discloses an ink refill apparatus 10 in which an ink cartridge 36 to be refilled is placed in a second housing member 14 of the apparatus. A first housing member 12 of the apparatus having an ink pouch 16 containing the refilling ink, is then engaged with the second housing member, and the housing members are moved toward each other to compress the ink pouch thereby refilling the ink into the ink cartridge. The housing members are then moved back away from each other to ensure negative pressure is maintained in the ink cartridge, and then they are brought out of engagement so that the refilled ink cartridge can be removed (see col. 3, lines 11-37 and col. 7, line 53-col. 8, line 60 of Yuen).

Thus, it is clear that the housing members of the apparatus of Yuen, which the Examiner corresponds to the first and second portions or base and plunger of the claimed invention, must be disengaged after the refilling operation has been performed in order that the refilled ink cartridge can be removed from the apparatus, which is completely opposite to the prevention of disengagement recited in amended independent claims 1 and 5.


Further, Kyser discloses an ink supply system in which a disposable ink cartridge 12 is engaged in a receptacle 10 so as to supply ink to a print head system. The engagement is provided by a shoulder 42 of the cartridge being inserted about a projecting shoulder 38 of the receptacle. Once the ink within the cartridge has been depleted the cartridge is disengaged with the receptacle so that a new cartridge may be inserted (see col. 3, line 40-col. 4, line 25 of Kyser).

Thus, it is also clear that the engaging arrangement of the cartridge and receptacle disclosed by Kyser, which the Examiner corresponds to the engagement arrangement of the claimed invention, must be disengageable so that a new ink cartridge can be inserted, which is also completely opposite to the prevention of disengagement recited in amended independent claims 1 and 5.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 5, and dependent claims 2-4, is not taught or suggested by Yuen and Kyser, either taken alone or in combination.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,
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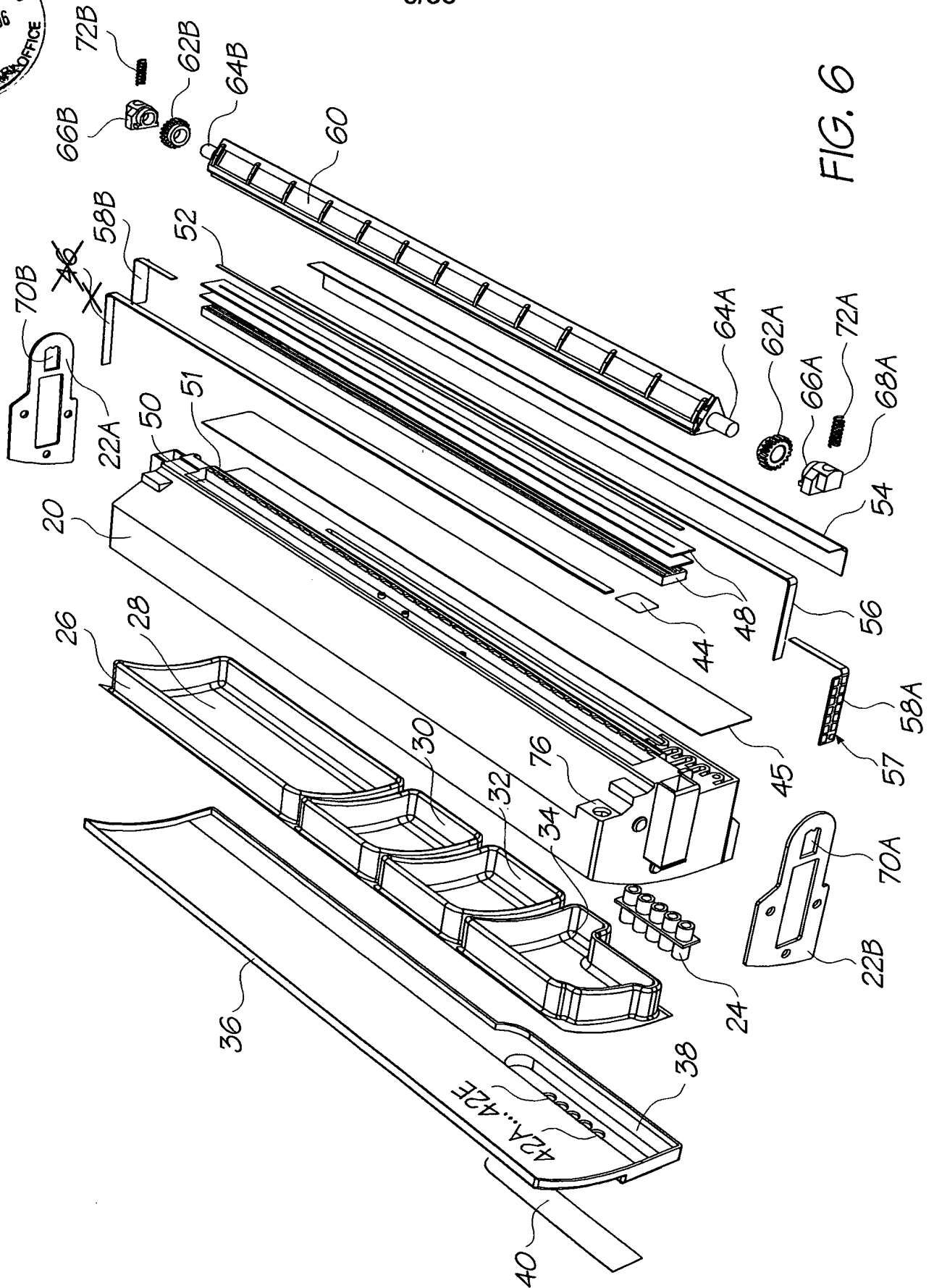
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FIG. 6



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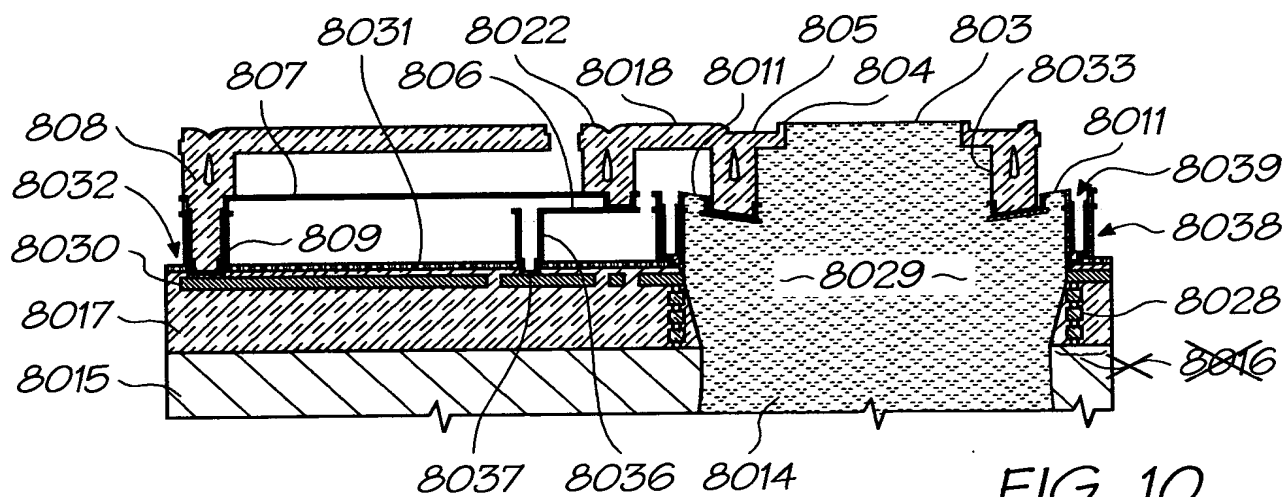


FIG. 10

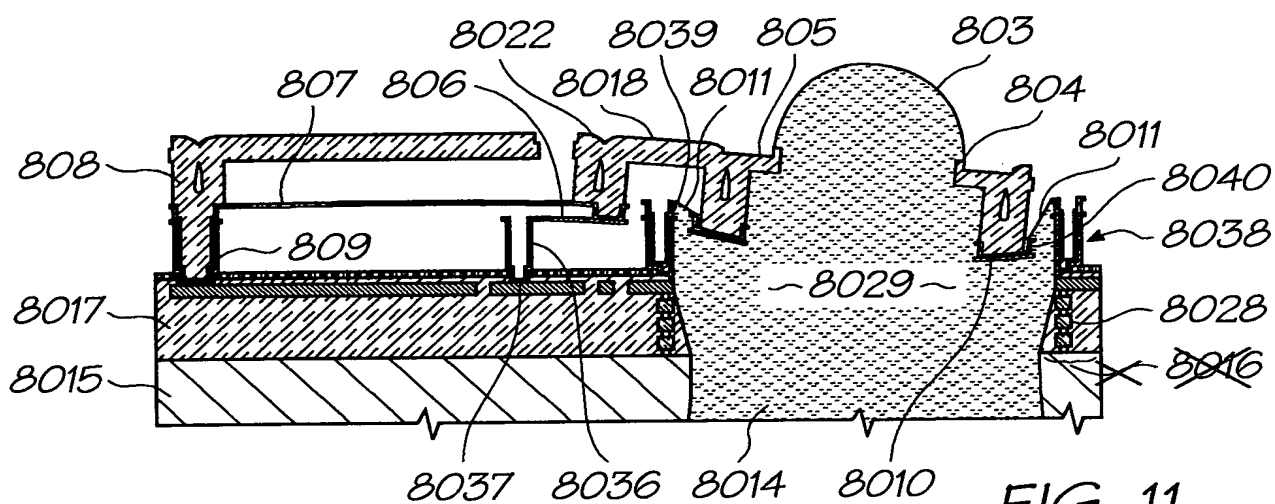


FIG. 11

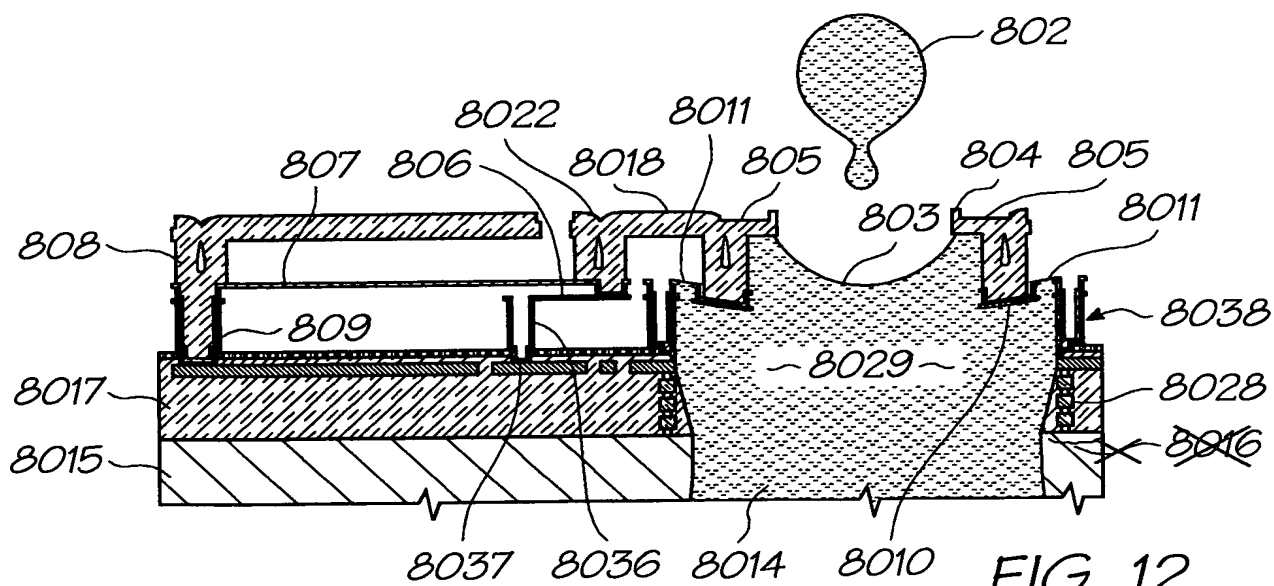


FIG. 12

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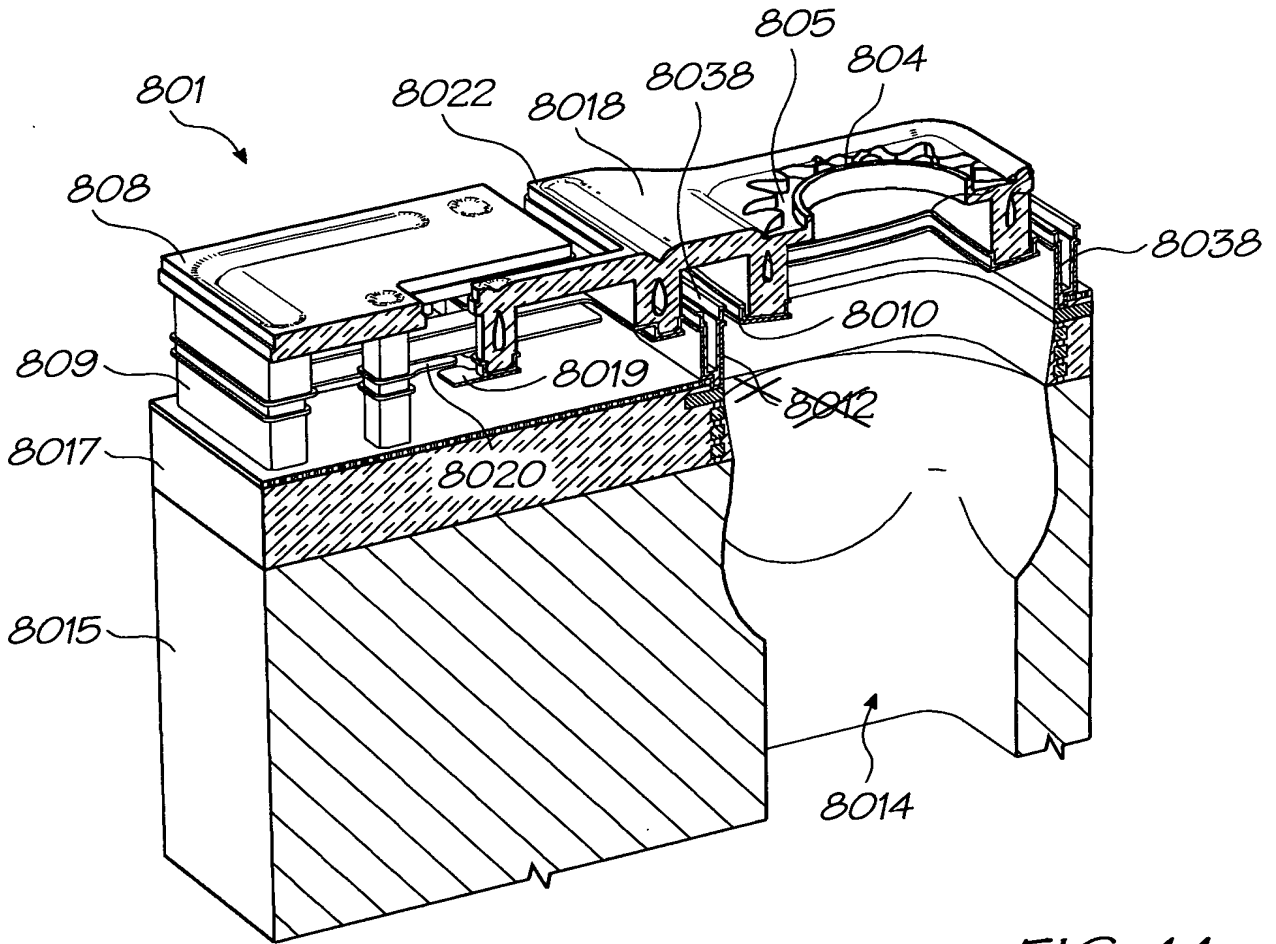


FIG. 14

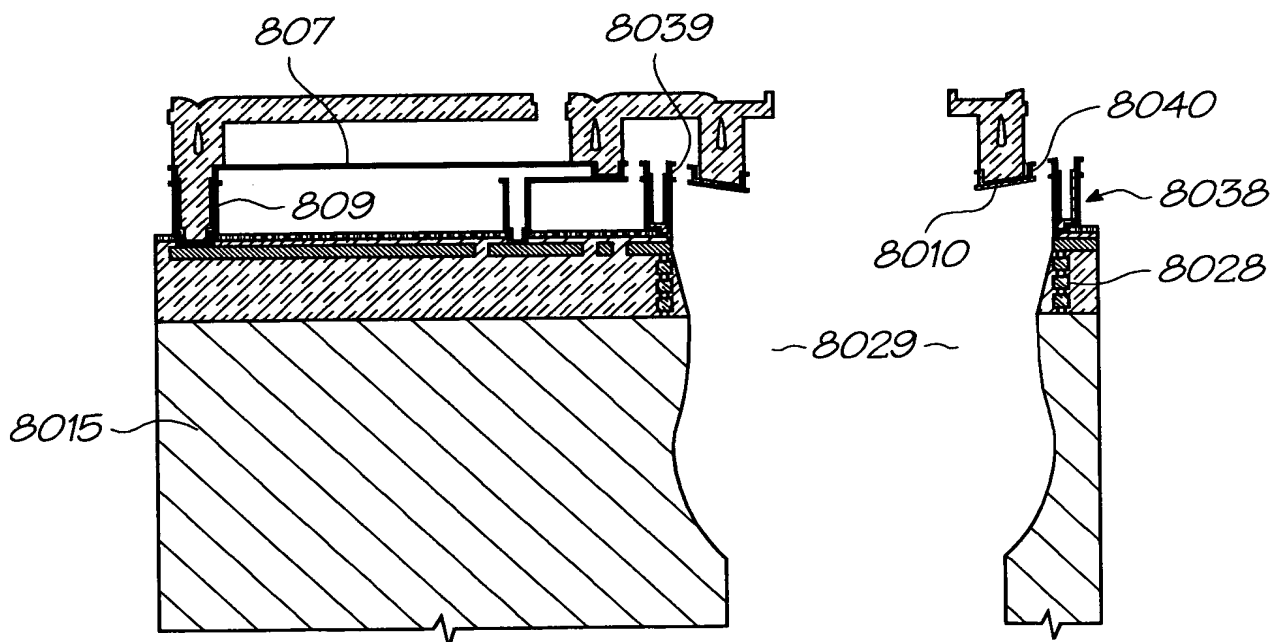


FIG. 15

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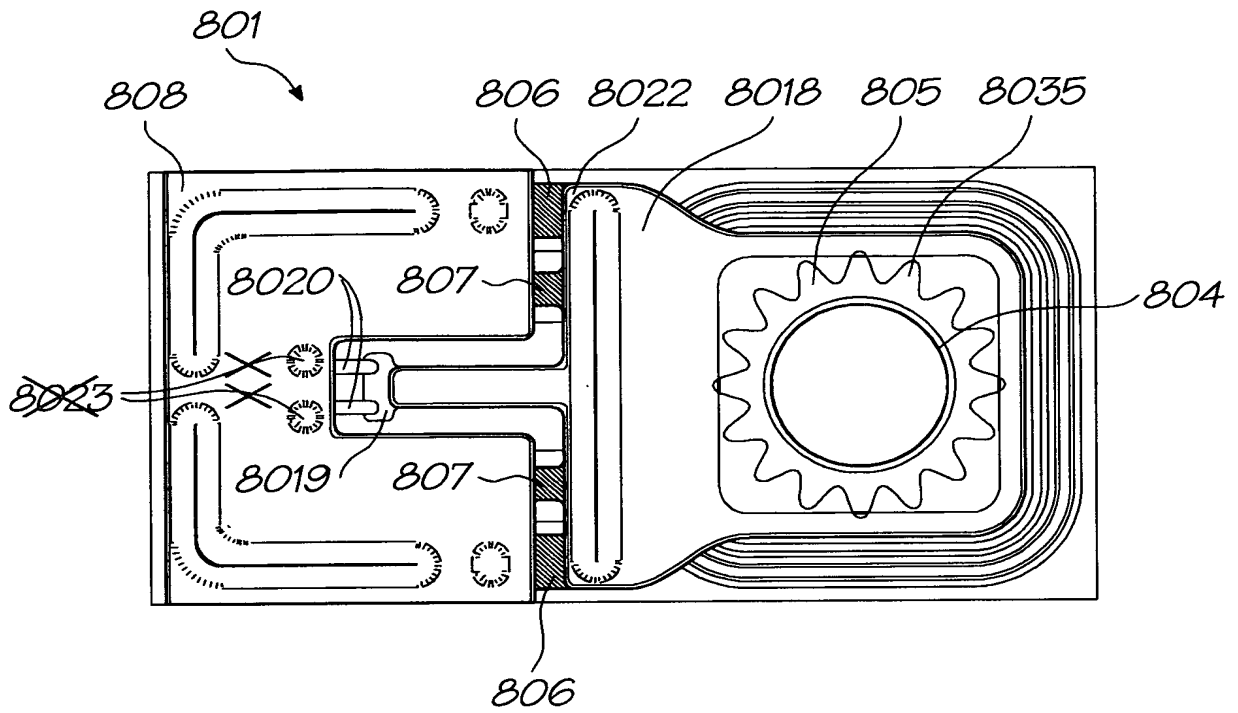


FIG. 17

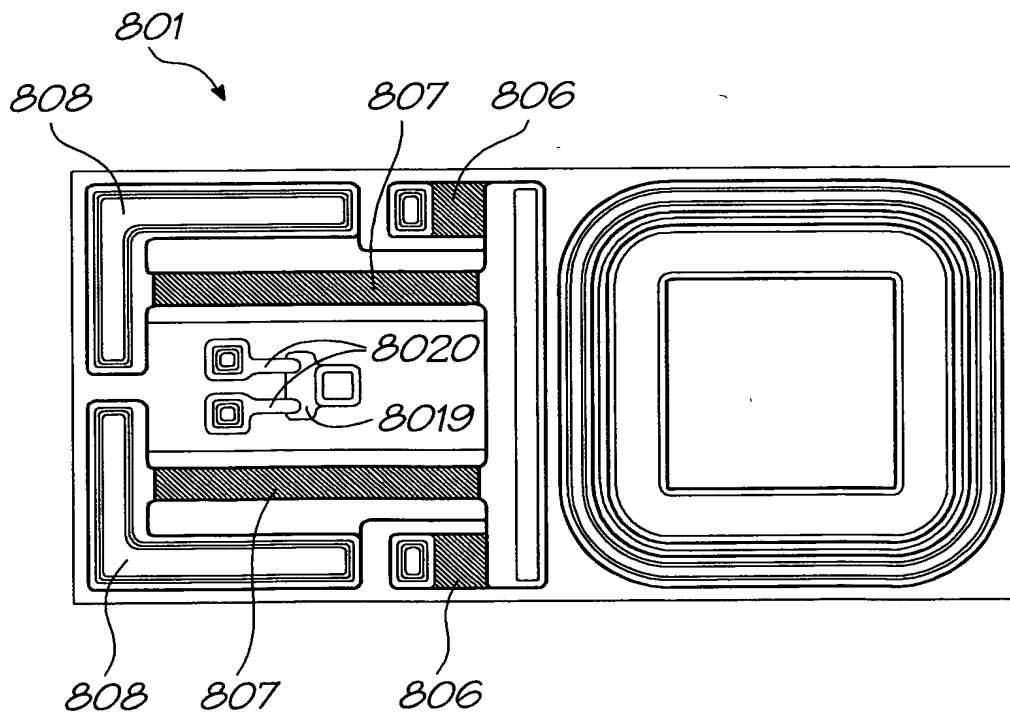


FIG. 18

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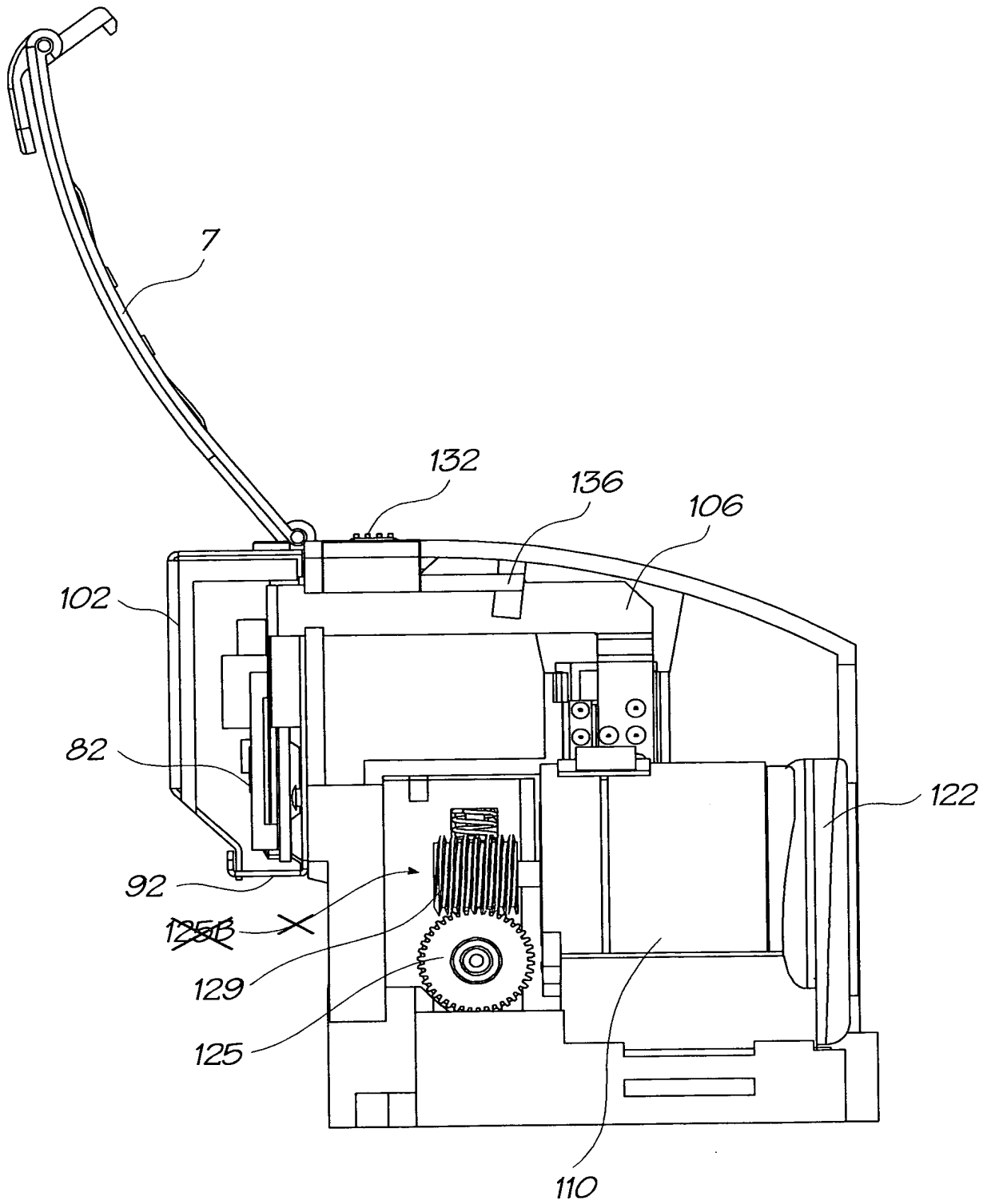


FIG. 25

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FIG. 26

